

VZCZCXYZ0018
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBU #1147/01 2941434
ZNY CCCCC ZZH (CCY AD00C90226/MSI2895 510)
O 211434Z OCT 09
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4498
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNMR/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE

14:34,09BUENOSAIRES1147,Embassy Buenos Aires, CONFIDENTIAL, 09BUENOSAIRES1084|09BUENOSAIRES5 26,"VZCZCXYZ0018OO RUEHWEBDE RUEHBU #1147/01 29414
ZNY CCCCC ZZH (CCY AD00C90226/MSI2895 510)O 211434Z OCT 09FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRESTO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4498INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNMR/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE"C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 001147 C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - CORRECTED MISSPELLING IN SUBJECT SIPDIS E
TAGS: PGOV KPAO ASEC PHUM SOCI KDEM AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA: AMBASSADOR ENCOUNTERS PROTESTERS IN
MENDOZA; PUBLIC AND (EVENTUALLY) GOVERNMENT SUPPORT HER REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 1084 (B) BUENOS AIRES 0526
Classified By: DCM Tom Kelly for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d).

11. (SBU) Summary: During her first trip outside of Buenos Aires, Ambassador Martinez was forced to change the location of a speech at the Natl of Cabinet eventually denounced it on drive-time radio programs on October 19. President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner (CFK), receiving the Ambassador's first trip outside of Buenos Aires. The university hosts a number of U.S. college students studying abroad, has worked well with Ambassador met with Vice Rector Kent and Institutional Relations Coordinator Abihaggle, as well as representatives from each of the university' problem. After hearing about this potential disruption, the Ambassador responded that with fourteen years of experience as a member of the Board of Regents for the University of California system, she wa made a few opening remarks and then passed the microphone to Vice Rector Kent. Once Vice Rector Kent began to introduce the Ambassador, more than half the attendees stood up, began to sing and displayed large banners denouncing U.S. actions in Honduras, Colombia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The protestors criticized the Embassy's involvement in the labor dispute between unions and Kraft departing Embassy group that thankfully missed its target.) Local police and the Ambassador's bodyguards then screened those interested in list commentary during the weekend. Pundits tied the incident to the violent attack in remote, northern Jujuy province a day later on the head of t discourse, though the editorial said nothing about the incident as it focused on the obscene anti-media tirade by Argentina's national team soc criticized the demonstrators and expressed sympathy toward the Ambassador. The few exceptions were posted in the name of leftist organizations, focused on solidarity with the workers at Kraft and sought to link the Ambassador's legal work for U.S. corporations

16. (SBU) Shortly after the event concluded, CAO spoke by phone to Vice Rector Kent and conveyed Embassy,s disappointment that security failec completely screen them out. However, he acknowledged that the university's security arrangements were inadequate. Kent sought to emphasize that the protestors' opinions were in no way representative of the university or of the vast majority of its students, and noted that the Ambassador was ultimately able to give her spe

17. (SBU) The incident took place while President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner (CFK) and Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana were on a state visit promptly reported by the government wire service TELAM. Argentine Ambassador to the United States Hector Timerman called the Ambassador to expr shouldn't happen. He also claimed (falsely) that he had called the Ambassador over the previous weekend to express his sentiments personally. Ambassador's credentials, CFK told the Ambassador "there is intolerance everywhere," which the media interpreted as a sign of support for the Ambassador. CFK and the Ambassador chatted amiably for abou ground, and she struck a chord among many Argentines when she called for working together against intolerance. Many Embassy contacts are appalled and worried by the growing lack of civility in political Another factor is the government's frequent complicity in mob attacks against political opponents. In the October 16 attack in Jujuy on opposi